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**Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 20 with the following:**

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES**

The debarking mechanism 1 shown in the drawings is intended for the excortication or pretreatment of trees 2 for separately performed final barking and for the expulsion of at least some of the removed barks from a wood flow passing through the debarking mechanism. The debarking mechanism 1 is provided with a number of rotatable debarking shafts 3, 3' extending parallel to the advancing direction A (fig. 1) of the trees 2 to be fed therethrough, said debarking shafts having each end thereof pivoted to the end plates 13 (fig. 1) at the ends of the debarking mechanism 1. To rotate the shafts 3, 3', one end or both ends are provided with for example a sprocket 14. The shafts 3, 3' are rotated in the direction of the pile 5 (fig. 2).

**Replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 1 with the following:**

In the state-of-the-art figures 1 and 2 there is a fingerplate 11 adapted to above the uppermost debarking shaft 3', the purpose of said fingerplate being to prevent the trees from getting wedged between the uppermost debarking shaft 3' and the side wall of the debarking mechanism 1. The barks can usually get out from between the debarking shaft 3' and the fingerplate 11 or between two debarking shafts 3 and fall down onto the bark conveyor below (not shown).